

Corres. and Maii **BOX AF**

RESPONSE UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.116 EXPEDITED PROCEDURE REQUESTED EXAMINING GROUP 37/3/8

Attorney Docket No. 06530.0275 Customer Number 22,852

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:

Susan I. SHELSO

Application No.: 09/753,448

Filed: January 4, 2001

For: **EXPANSION-ASSISTING**

DELIVERY SYSTEM FOR

SELF-EXPANDING STENT

Group Art Unit: 3738

Examiner: K. LANDREM

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Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

TECHNOLOGY CENTER R3700

Sir:

AMENDMENT AFTER FINAL

In reply to the Office Action of April 23, 2003, Applicant proposes that this application be amended as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend claims 1, 5, 17, 29, 31, and 44 as follows:

(Twice Amended) A delivery system for a self-expanding stent, the Clm 22

delivery system comprising:

a catheter having a distal end, the catheter being configured to retain a

self-expanding stent proximate the distal end, the catheter including

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